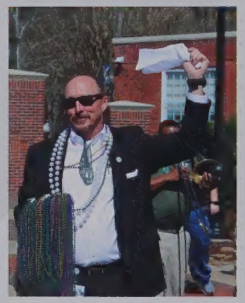
2021-2022 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

CO-LIN

The Legacy Fountain



Message from the President...

Last year, I chose our college-wide theme "Grow Through What You Go Through." Given all that the Co-Lin family has endured, I felt this was an appropriate theme to represent the growth that comes when we face and overcome challenges.

Four presidential priorities, all focused on success, guided my efforts this past year:

1. Student Success: Our students are some of the best and brightest in Mississippi. Our goal is to provide them with every opportunity to be successful, whether through academics, athletics, extracurricular activities, community service, scholarship, or workforce development. We feel such pride that our students continue to earn state and national recognition in a variety of areas.

2. Employee Success: I continually brag on our dedicated and awesome employees. Our faculty and staff go above and beyond on behalf of our students and the many community sectors we serve. They are the best and deserve a great deal of credit.

3. Institutional Success: I am honored to lead such an outstanding institution. Co-Lin continues to excel and receive national recognition for our excellence both inside and outside of the classroom.

4. Economic Development Success: I feel great passion and responsibility for expanding economic development opportunities in our area of the state.

Southwest Mississippi has so much to offer and we are excited to be part of marketing our region to attract new business and industry, as well as assist existing companies in their expansion and growth.

It was such a joy to see many existing events and activities return to campus this year. There is no question that despite a global pandemic, Co-Lin continues to thrive.

Jane Hudson Simon

CO-LIN
CLCC WOLF PACK
CO-LIN

Rural Physicians

Co-Lin graduates Morgan McCray of Ridgeland (left) and Bailey Wilson of Brookhaven have earned full scholarships for medical school through the Mississippi Rural Physicians Scholarship Program (MRPSP). The MRPSP is a competitive scholarship program for outstanding Mississippi students committed to pursuing rural medicine and primary care. Once admitted into medical school, McCray and Wilson will have all four years paid for through the MRPSP, a scholarship of $35,000 per year.

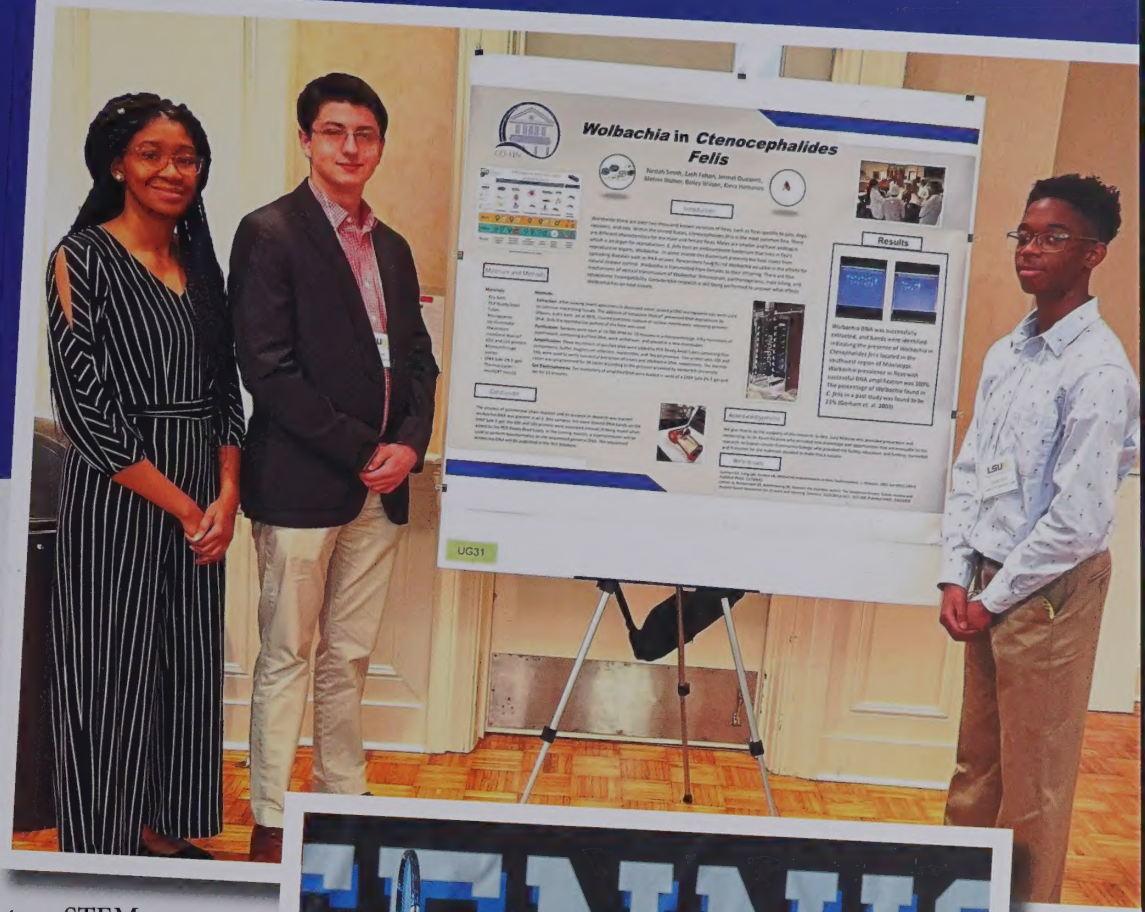
PTK Academic Team

Six Co-Lin students earned special recognition for being on the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society All-Mississippi Academic Team. Honorees are pictured from left, Gracee Warren of Bogue Chitto; Hattie Grace Ashmore of Magee; Vincent Chung of Mendenhall; Samaria Spears of Woodville; and Paige Shedd of Brookhaven. Not pictured is Murray Donald of Natchez.

Ashmore and Chung represented the Simpson County Center, Donald and Spears represented the Natchez Campus, and Shedd and Warren represented the Wesson Campus. Each student received a medallion to wear during the Spring 2022 commencement ceremony. Additionally, these outstanding students and their families were honored at a special reception at the home of college President Dr. Jane Hulon Sims.

Bio-Medical Research

Members of Co-Lin's biomedical research team Neziah Smith of Sontag, Blake Walker of Brookhaven, and Zach Felton of Roxie presented at LSU's satellite campus in Shreveport at the LSUS Student Scholars Forum. They were the only Mississippi community college, or university, students invited to present their research in the undergraduate poster category.



✦ Co-Lin sophomores Kassidy Cupit of Brookhaven and Gracee Warren of Bogue Chitto were chosen to receive $4,000 national Mu Alpha Theta scholarships.

✦ William Winter Scholars selected from all three campuses were recognized at the 33rd annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration were student William Rouse and instructor Melinda Laird (NC); student Olivia Lewis and instructor Glenda Silverii (WC); and student Gretta Graves and instructor Toby Graves (SCC).

✦ Paige Shedd of Brookhaven was selected to receive one of two STEM scholarships from Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and Phi Theta Kappa, a $2,250 award.

✦ The NJCAA recognized 63 Co-Lin student-athletes for excellence in the classroom and a record-setting 111 students were named MACCC Academic All-State.

✦ Co-Lin golfer Alex Navarro tied for 11th place in the NJCAA Division II National Golf Championship. He was named NJCAA Second Team All-American, NJCAA All-Tournament Team and MACCC Second Team All-Conference.

✦ Julian Parada and Julian Toloza were the overall MACCC Tennis Champions in No. 1 Doubles and were named MACCC All-Conference.

Lady Wolves Claim Championship

The No.5 Lady Wolves needed two games to secure their first MACCC Softball Tournament championship since 2009 as the No.4 Lady Bobcats forced a decisive 15th game on the fourth and final day of action at the tournament. The Lady Bobcats forced the if necessary game beating the Lady Wolves, 12-8; however, the Lady Wolves bounced back and won the final game of the tournament, 4-3, to earn the MACCC State Softball Championship!

"I am so unbelievably proud of this team," stated Co-Lin head coach Meleah Howard. "This group has something very special about them. They have an edge to them and that has never let them back down from a battle. Every game this year has been tough and I could not be prouder of how tough we have been throughout all 49 games we have played so far this year."

Fresh off their win, the Lady Wolves hosted the NJCAA Region 23 Softball Tournament in Wesson where they were the top seed. The Co-Lin Softball team faced off against Northeast in an elimination game in the third day of the Region 23 tournament and fell to the Lady Tigers, 3-2, bringing the 2022 season to an end.

The Lady Wolves finished the season with a 42-10 overall record, setting a single season record for wins, while also winning the first conference championship since 2009 and earned the number one ranking in the NJCAA Division II Softball poll for the first time in program history.

✦ Cera Blanchard of Metairie, La. was named MACCC Pitcher of the Year, NJCAA Division II All-American, First Team All-MACCC, All-Region 23, First Team NFCA NJCAA DII All-South Region, and First Team NFCA NJCAA DII All-American.

✦ Shelbi Maxwell of Wesson was named NFCA Second Team-All American, All-MACCC Second Team, and NJCAA All-Region 23 Softball team. She was Top-5 in stolen bases where she led the Lady Wolves, the MACCC, and was Top-10 in the nation with 40.

✦ Maddie Weeks of Clinton was named NFCA Second Team All-American, NJCAA All-Region 23 Softball team, All-MACCC First Team, and MACCC Player of the Week.

✦ Faith Kivett of Tallulah, La. was named to the NJCAA All-Region 23 Softball team and All-MACCC First Team.

✦ Madi Miller of Brookhaven was named All-MACCC Second Team.

7
MACCC DIVISIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS:
7
7
NJCAA REGION XXIII CHAMPIONS
4
SOFTBALL
CO-LIN
26

CO-LIN
MACCC

Martin, Hood complete Fellowship

Wesson Campus Vice President Jackie Martin (left) and eLearning Director Dr. Amanda Hood completed the Community College Policy Fellowship Program (CPFP), Mississippi Cohort. The CPFP program is designed to give Fellows first-hand, high-level experience in working with the federal government and to increase awareness and education of national affairs. The program requires fellows to dedicate considerable time to program responsibilities and assignments, and to travel to Washington D.C. as a cohort. Martin also received the 2021-2022 Outstanding Fellow Award. The Outstanding Fellow Award recognizes a Mississippi Community College Policy Fellow who has displayed distinctive leadership and meritorious service to their profession through participation in the CPFP program. More importantly, the recipient is chosen by their peers.

Howard is Coach of the Year

Co-Lin Head Softball Coach Meleah Howard was named the Softball Coach of the Year by the Mississippi Association of Community Colleges Conference. Howard celebrated many milestones this season including earning her 100th career win at Co-Lin in a 9-1 win on the road at Meridian. Howard needed just 131 games to reach the milestone making her the fastest among active MACCC coaches to do so. Howard coached the Lady Wolves to their first MACCC State Championship since 2009 and saw the team earn the first number one ranking in school history this season.

✦ Co-Lin Mathematics/Computer Science Division Chairperson and instructor Eddie Britt (left) received the 2022 NISOD Excellence Award.

✦ Co-Lin Early Childhood Education Program Coordinator Felisha Hampton (bottom left) completed the Mississippi Career-Technical Education Leadership Academy.

✦ Wesson Campus Vice President Jackie Laird Martin was named as one of only 28 college administrators nationwide to receive the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Distinguished College Administrator Award.

✦ Instructor Ashley Dugas was honored as the 2021-22 Humanities Council Instructor of the Year.

✦ Co-Lin Comptroller Kina Leggett was elected as the Region 6 Representative for Community College Business Officers.

✦ Art Instructor Janet Smith received the Brookhaven Lincoln County Educator of the Year award and Engineering Instructor Dr. Reed Freeman received the Wesson Chamber Educator of the Year.

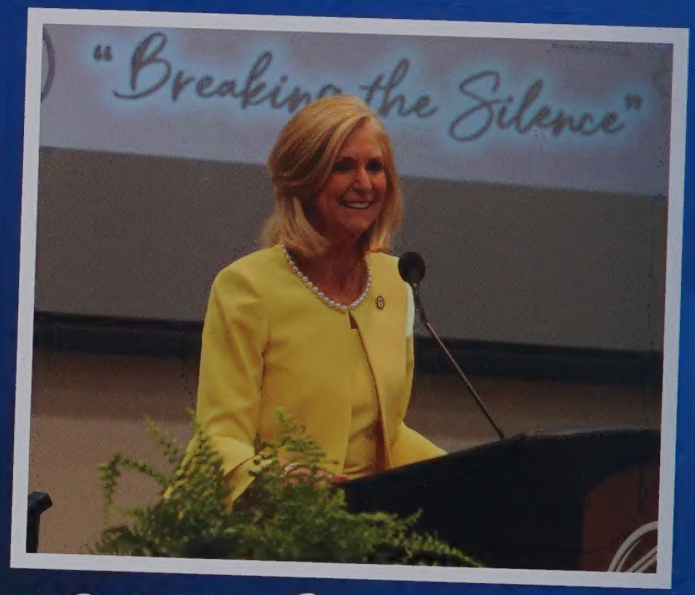
✦ Dr. Sandra Barnes, Vice President of the Natchez Campus and Michelle Crace, Instructor at the Simpson County Center, (bottom) graduated from the Mississippi Community College Leadership Academy.

Strengthening Partnerships

Co-Lin and Alcorn State University signed a new articulation agreement that will allow students who complete specific associate degree requirements to receive guaranteed admission to Alcorn's four-year degree programs including nursing, social work, education, chemistry, math, computer science, and business with an opportunity for academic transfer scholarships as well. Additionally, Co-Lin signed new partnership agreements with William Carey University and The University of West Alabama to offer students more scholarships and degree options.

Practical Nursing Program

The Natchez Campus reestablished the Practical Nursing program to their Career and Technical program offerings beginning in January of 2022.



Grit & Grace

Our fourth annual Grit & Grace Women's Conference welcomed keynote speaker Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch and guest speakers Shauna Fletcher and Ashlee Lucas. Speakers educated attendees on the important topic of human trafficking and what we can do to be part of the solution.

Legacy Fountain Dedication

A dedication ceremony was held this spring for the new fountain located in front of the college president's home. The Legacy Fountain was dedicated in honor of all former Co-Lin presidents and their families that have occupied the president's home on the college's Wesson Campus.

"When thinking about our rich history at Copiah-Lincoln Community College, you can't help but think of the incredible presidents that led the way," Co-Lin's eighth president Dr. Jane Hulon Sims remarked during the dedication ceremony. "Their legacy of excellent leadership helped shape who Copiah-Lincoln is today."

Portraits of the seven presidents who came before Dr. Hulon Sims were displayed on easels around the fountain. Present for the ceremony were Dr. Ronnie Nettles (president 2008-2018) and wife Rosie, Dr. Howell Garner (president 1997-2008) and wife Candace, Dr. Billy B. Thames (president 1968-1997) with wife Martha, and daughters Rachel Thames Peeples and Rebecca Thames Wilson, and Margaret Ewing Thomas, daughter of late president Dr. James Ewing (president 1932-1956). The Legacy Fountain was funded by the Co-Lin Foundation.

ASPEN PRIZE FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE EXCELLENCE
THE ASPEN INSTITUTE
TOP 150
2021

2021 GREAT COLLEGES TO WORK FOR®
Recognized

- The 33rd annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration welcome authors, artists, and attendees from around the country.
- A new Cybersecurity program will begin on the Natchez Campus and the EMT/Paramedic program will be relocated to the Wesson Campus beginning Fall 2022.
- Wolf Hollow Golf Course received much-needed bridge repairs and upgrades.
- The Band and Colette Alumni Association made the first organizational donation towards the building fund for the new Educational, Performing Arts, and Athletic Center.

Economic Development Summit

Co-Lin and Southwest Mississippi Community College partnered to host an Economic Development Summit on Co-Lin's Wesson Campus in September 2021. The event welcomed keynote speaker Governor Tate Reeves and guest speakers Dr. Bill Ashley of Mississippi Development Authority; Mitch Stringer of Cooperative Energy; and Mississippi Workforce Director Ryan Miller of Accelerate Mississippi.

The 2021 Summit was well-attended by elected officials, economic developers, business and industry leaders, and community stakeholders. Conversation centered around the potential growth of Southwest Mississippi and all that this region of the state has to offer to business and industry looking to establish or expand their business.

The event concluded with the exciting announcement that Co-Lin and SMCC have partnered to create a new Commission for the Future of Economic Development in Southwest Mississippi. This new commission will be made up of representatives from the 11 counties that make up the two college districts. These counties include Adams, Amite, Copiah, Franklin, Jefferson, Lawrence, Lincoln, Pike, Simpson, Walthall, and Wilkinson.

"The mission of this group will be to address issues related to retention, expansion, and the recruitment of new business and industry to Southwest Mississippi," announced Co-Lin President, Dr. Jane Hulon Sims. "We believe the time to act for our region of the state is now. If not now, then when?"

The Commission held its first meeting in the Spring of 2022.

CO-LIN

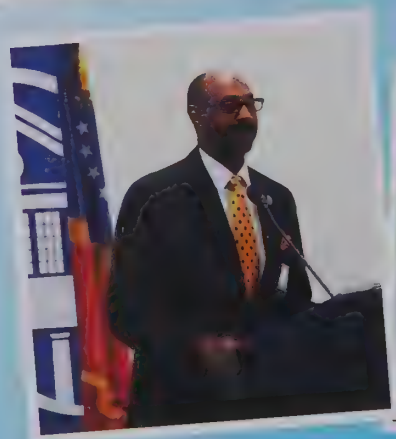
Workforce Center welcomes Laird

Lincoln County native Luke Laird was announced as Workforce Center Director. His extensive background in the corporate-based telecommunications industry provides him with a unique perspective to relate to area employers and their labor force needs.

Laird boasts a 20-year career in telecommunications including a collective four years of staff training in which he designed curriculum and implemented successful training programs that accomplished an improved safety standing within the company.

"I am truly excited to move back home and begin to give back to the community," said Laird. "My desire is to see Co-Lin lead the way in building a quality labor force that serves companies and organizations in Southwest Mississippi."

Legislative Support



A Legislative Luncheon was held in Jackson with all district legislators to discuss funding opportunities for the college. Co-Lin appreciates our legislative support.

Accelerate Mississippi

Co-Lin's Workforce Division is proud to partner with Accelerate Mississippi to enhance training for citizens in the Co-Lin District.

Lineman Class Climbs to New Heights

The Electrical Lineman Program graduated its third class in the summer of 2022. This extremely successful 16-week training program has graduated all classes with 100% job placement after completion. The fourth class is full, with a waiting list for a fifth class.

✦ Co-Lin's Wesson Campus announced the implementation of a fiber splicing program funded by a grant awarded by Accelerate MS. This short-term training course will enable students to fulfill fiber technician responsibilities with any utility company providing fiber dependent services.

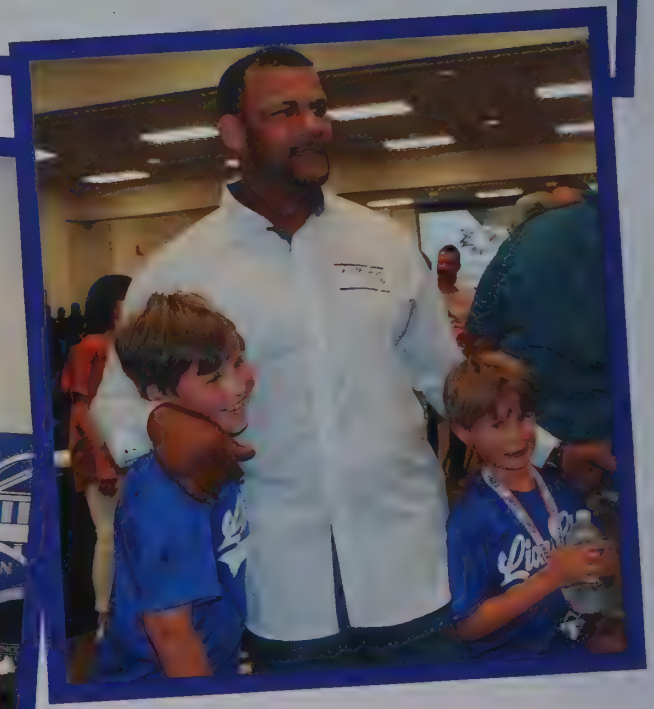
✦ The college's Workforce Education Division offered a brand new Construction Academy which included classes in Basic Plumbing and Masonry.

✦ The annual Job Fair on the Wesson Campus saw a record number of vendors and attendees seeking employment and networking opportunities. In addition, the Simpson County Center hosted its first ever job fair.

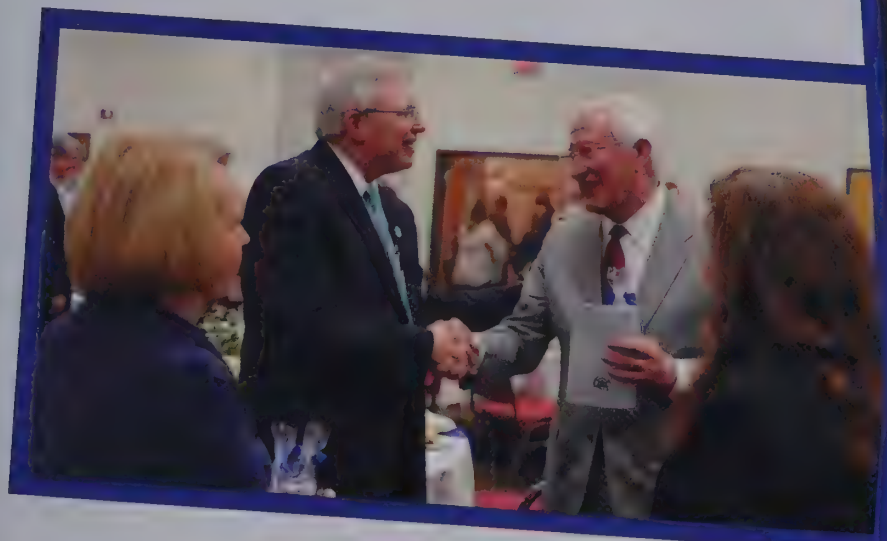
✦ The college announced a new partnership with Louisiana based Coastal Truck Driving School and saw the first group of students graduate from the program in May of 2022. Coastal is an experienced and licensed CDL training school that has expanded to offer a new Coastal campus located in Natchez.

Foundation HIGHLIGHTS

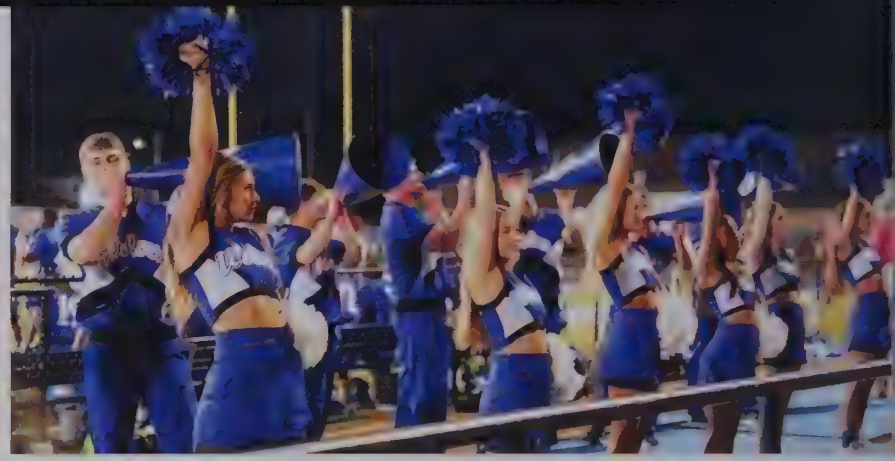
The Co-Lin Alumni and Foundation office hosted both a Baseball and Football reunion during the Spring of 2022. Both events were quite a success with former athletes traveling from all over the country to be in attendance. The Keith Case Baseball Reunion was held at the home of college president Dr. Jane Hulon Sims, while the football reunion was held at the Thames Conference Center and welcomed nearly 200 former players and family members.



The Co-Lin Foundation inducted six new members into its Hall of Fame at a banquet held March 31, 2022. Those inducted for the 2021 class were James Larry Greer of Ridgeland, Dr. Jane Hulon Sims of Wesson, Marion and Carolyn Vance Smith of Natchez, Drs. Robert and Dianne Watson of Brookhaven, Dr. Robert Williams of Hattiesburg, and Gwyn and Velesta Young of Wesson.



Co-Lin President Dr. Jane Hulon Sims hosted a Presidential Scholarship Reception at her home for the eleven outstanding high school seniors, and their families, who were named 2022 Presidential Scholars.



Homecoming Scenes

Homecoming 2021 was a wonderful time for the Co-Lin family to gather once again and celebrate so many great memories at The Place To Be. The week of activities kicked off on Monday with a community-wide movie night held in Stone Stadium. Tuesday evening was filled with fun at the Homecoming 5K Glow Run, followed by music and s'mores in the courtyard. On Wednesday, retirees returned to campus for a brunch where they were joined by many current faculty and staff to reminisce and share stories.

Homecoming day was held on Thursday and was filled with fun from the president's home open house to the alumni awards reception and tailgate party outside the stadium. Stone Stadium was filled with fans to support Homecoming Queen Madi Miller and her court to cheer on the Wolf Pack. To end the week, the annual Homecoming Golf Tournament was held at Wolf Hollow Golf Course on Friday.

Board of TRUSTEES

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Fred Butcher
Lynwood Easterling
Charles "Chuck" Gilbert
Jason Lynch
Dante Weir

Copiah County
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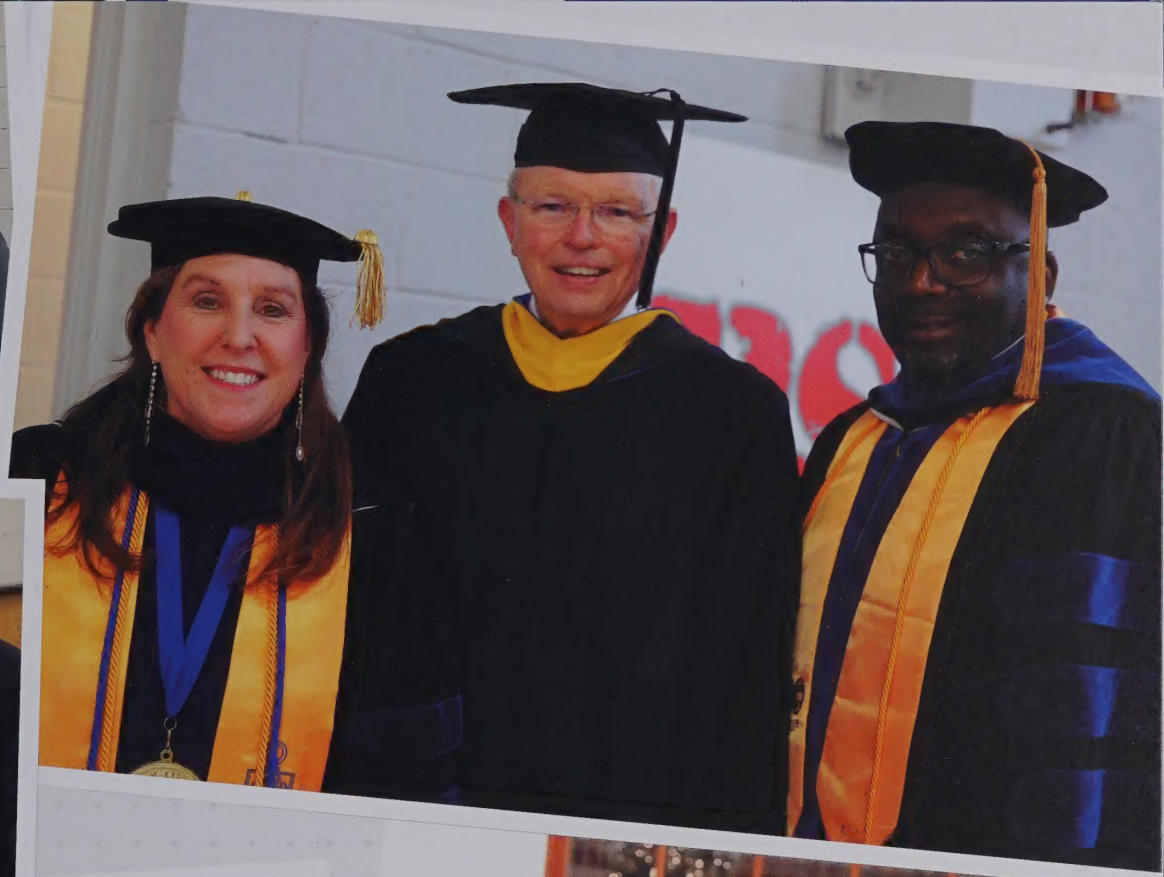
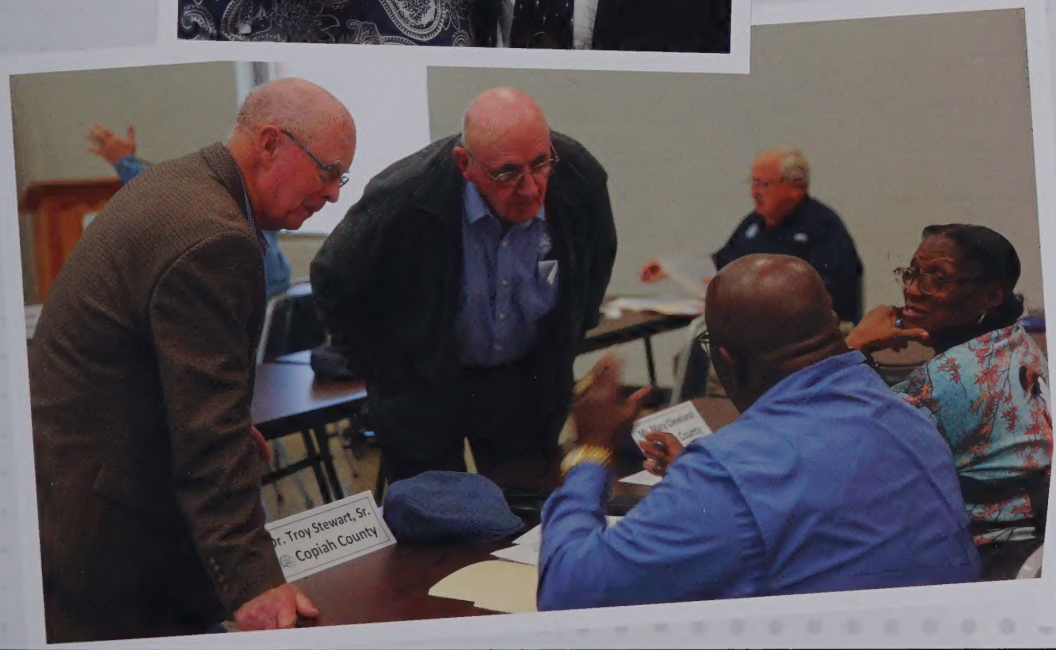
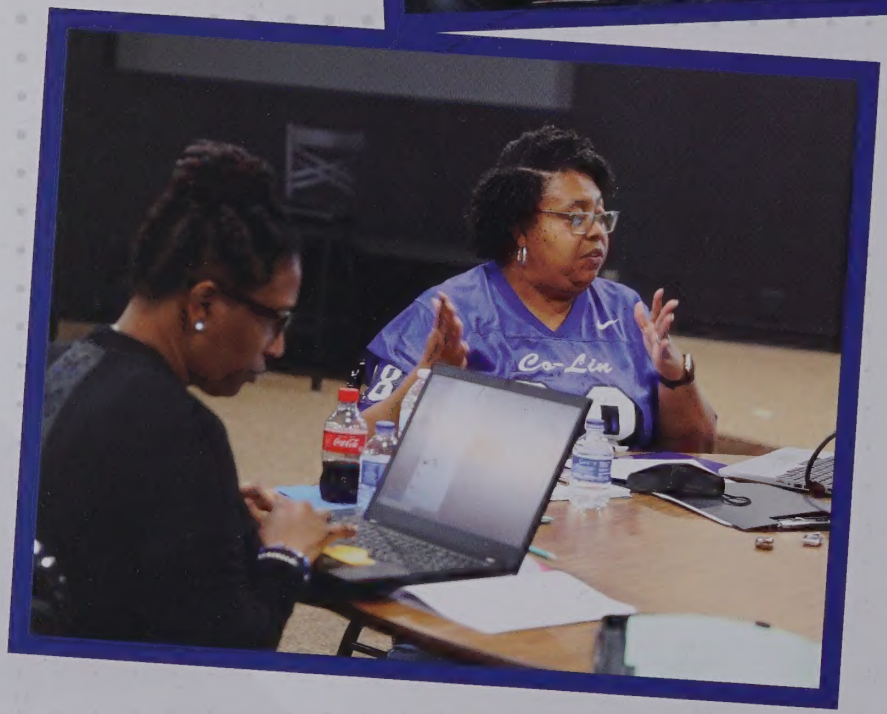
SIMPSON COUNTY




Sr. Troy Stewart, Sr.
Copiah County

Leadership RETREAT

The annual Administrative Leadership Retreat, held this year at Easthaven Baptist Church, offers college leadership an opportunity to plan for the upcoming academic year, complete professional development, and review the Presidential Priorities for the year.



The Women's Foundation of Mississippi named Co-Lin as the recipient of the $40,000 Bower Scholars Health Care Grant.

Each year, college administration meets with the board of supervisors from each county in the college district. Shown here are Franklin and Lincoln counties.

College FINANCIALS

REVENUE FUNDS

Tuition and Fees	$ 8,036,742.00
State Appropriations	$ 8,935,156.00
County Appropriations	$ 5,049,535.00
Federal Grants/Contracts	$13,245,031.00
State Grants/Contracts	$ 2,942,442.00
Local Grants/Contracts	$ 2,954,768.00
Sales and Services	$ 4,297,191.00
Other Revenues	$ 234,532.00
Total	$45,695,397.00

EXPENSES (by Function)

Instructional	$15,986,545.00
Instructional Support	$ 796,429.00
Student Services	$ 3,610,086.00
Institutional Support	$ 5,931,050.00
Physical Plant	$ 4,729,055.00
Auxiliaries	$ 3,541,146.00
Debt Services	$ 1,400,861.00
Financial Aid	$ 9,428,636.00
Transfers	$ 271,589.00
Total	$45,695,397.00

Nonprofit
Organization
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